

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0064] with the following amended paragraph:

[0064] When the user is ready to fire the weapon, the lever 94 is pulled backward, or away from the vertical component 154 of the trigger guard 66 ~~guard 166~~. As the lever 94 is pulled backwards, the trigger 14 rotates about the pivot pin 130, and the upper portion 100 thereof moves forwardly against the action of the spring 138 which is therefore compressed by the pulling action on the lever 94. Further, as the trigger 14 rotates about the pivot pin 130, the ramp portion 98 rises, and the trigger engagement surface 120 of the sear 112 riding over the sear engagement surface 106 causes the sear 112 to rotate in a clockwise direction, about the pivot pin 142. Thus, as the trigger engagement arm 118 rises as the trigger lever 94 is pulled, the catch arm 122 lowers against the action of the spring 144. Eventually, the sear 112 will rotate to the point where catch 124 is outside of the bore, allowing the hammer 146 to move forward by the action of the spring 148. The forward movement of the hammer 146 opens a valve, setting in motion the discharge of compressed gas, which fires the paint ball.

Please replace paragraph [0065] with the following amended paragraph:

[0065] During movement of the lever 94 of the trigger 14 from its resting position as shown in FIG. 5, to the full firing position as shown in FIG. 6, the actuating rod aperture 80 ~~aperture 84~~ moves from the right hand side of the horizontal slot 80 to the left hand side thereof. As the actuating rod aperture 104 moves within the slot, it shifts the actuating rod itself, which in turn initiates the automatic recocking and reloading of a new paint ball in the barrel of the gun. As mentioned above, the timing between release of the hammer 146 by lowering of the catch 124, and the effects of the actuating rod, are carefully controlled so that the sequential timing of the firing and reloading operations are optimized for maximum effectiveness.